

MEMBERS' COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

"CURRIE" PERFIN Bulletin 215/12; 216/4; 217/2; 257/17; 265/12;
266/17; 267/12; 270/20.

DAVE HILL apologises for not looking in his "Dictionary of Business Biographies" to sort out the historical side of the Currie family when the question "Can anyone link DONALD CURRIE with JAMES CURRIE?" first appeared in Bulletin 265 Pg.12.

Donald Currie formed his own company in 1862 to run steamships between England and Calcutta. In the following year he became associated with the Leith, Hull and Hamburg Line, eventually becoming a major shareholder. Not surprisingly really as it was managed by his elder brother James (who had been named for their father).

Donald established the Liverpool and Hamburg Steamship Company in 1866 with ships borrowed from his brother's Line. Donald transferred His trade to the Cape and in 1872 formed the Castle Line. An early exponent of "imaginative accounting", Currie kept profits within the company and spent them on building luxury steamships rather than pay any dividends.

From the above, Dave is not sure there was any clear distinction between the Currie companies of the two brothers. They may have been just holding companies for their shares in the companies which they managed.

KEVIN PARKHILL has shown me an almost exact duplicate of the envelope shown in Bulletin 270 Pg.20. It is written by the same person to Captain G.A.K.Wisely R.E. and has Aberfeldy postmark dated 4-6-87 with address 'Garth,Aberfeldy, Perthshire" on the reverse. The London address of Capt.Wisely is different and the envelope is a mourning envelope. Kevin wonders if "GARTH" was perhaps the name of the Currie family residence in Scotland.

Looking at the perfin die on this envelope - C7980.03 - the pins missing as shown in Bulletin 266 Pg.17 are still there but those two holes would appear to be blind. This was 1887 and by 1890 the pins would seem to be broken altogether.

"CURRIE" PERFIN Bulletin 274 Pg.14.

DAVE HILL says Kevin Parkhill was correct in his assumption that "GARTH" was the name of the Estate belonging to Donald Currie. He bought the estate in 1880.

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